

Epandrium deeper than long, subtriangular. Style elongate palmate, dorsal and ventral margins parallel; with a short ventrally projecting thumb at the middle of the ventral surface; with long fine hairs dorso-basally and on the thumb; with short hairs anterior to thumb on apical one-third of style proper, and ventral to this area, an even fringe of hairs. Cersus small.

Penis sheath rectangular. Superior lobe undifferentiated from penis sheath and without a definite joint or articulation.

Sustentacular apodeme elongate and very narrow. Chitinous box much as in *B. (B.) bicolor* (Fall.); with a definite pair of arms originating on the middle of the apical margin; immediately dorsal to this, a narrow membranous area with a small heavily sclerotized plate above it; the apico-dorsal one-third of the chitinous box "C" shaped; basad of the "C" is a membranous area; basally and on the dorsal three-fourths of the chitinous box there are found the same type of hairs as found in *bicolor* (Fall.).

These two subgenera are very closely related and there are only very minor differences in the genitalia. The differences in the adult characteristics are also minor although Curran (1922) has presented arguments to the contrary.

The relationship of these subgenera to the rest of the Chrysogastrina is based on the construction and elaboration of the chitinous box which lacks an articulating surface to separate it from the epaculatory hood when present. Both *Chrysogaster s.l.* and *Brachyopa s.l.* are primitive in general features of the morphology of the genitalia. The presence of generalized inferior and superior lobes and the primitive condition of the epandrium in the species considered as most closely approximating the most generalized condition of recent species is also taken as evidence for the placement of *Brachyopa s.l.* as members of this subtribe.

#### BIBLIOGRAPHY

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### LASIOPTERA ALLIOIDES, A NEW GALL MIDGE ON GRASS

(DIPTERA: CECIDOMYIIDAE)

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The bulbous galls (Fig. 1) formed at the bases of stems of *Paspalum distichum* are so well known in the West that Robbins, Bellue, and Ball (1941) referred to these galls in their book "Weeds of California" as often being characteristic of this grass. Dr. Paul Arnaud, California State Department of Agriculture, and Dr. E. S. Ross, California Academy of Sciences, reared adults from larvae that make these galls, and they are here described.

The gall-maker belongs to the genus *Lasioptera* Meigen *sens. lat.* Felt based his division of this genus on the wing venation and number of palpal segments, while the European workers, Rübbsaamen and

Kieffer, considered the shape of the ventral plate of the hypopygium of the male and characteristics of the lamellae of the ovipositor to be more fundamental for generic segregation. Until there is a modern revision reconciling these generic (or subgeneric) concepts, it appears preferable to employ the generic name *Lasioptera* in the broad sense.

*Lasioptera allioides*, new species

*Alliodes* agrees with the genus *Neolasioptera* Felt in regard to the development of  $M_{3+4}$  and with both *Neolasioptera* and *Meuniericlla* Kieffer in regard to the nonleft caudal margin of the ventral plate of the male hypopygium, the absence of hooks on the lamellae of the ovipositor, and the four-segmented palpus.



Figure 1. Gall of *Lasioptera allioides* on *Paspalum distichum*.

*Lasioptera carbonitens* Cockerell makes a similar gall, resembling an onion bulb, on an unidentified grass in New Mexico. *L. allioides* differs from the described female of that species in that the femora are entirely black and the costal margin of the wing bears a conspicuous patch of white scales just beyond the end of  $R_5$ .

*Female*.—Antenna with  $2 + 23$  segments; occiput with scales mostly black. Palpus with four segments. Mesonotum with scales black except for yellow scales laterally, above humeral calli, and sparsely along dorsocentral rows; thoracic pleura with scales yellowish except for black scales on mesepisternum; hair tuft of mesepimeron tawny. Wing with scales on costa mostly black but with a patch of white scales at the end of  $R_5$ ;  $M_{3+4}$  strong; Cu simple. Femora and tibiae black with black scales except for yellowish scales anteriorly on femora and white scales proximally on outer face of tibia; anterior and midtarsi black with black scales dorsally and white scales ventrally; hind tarsus with proximal two segments and proximal one-half of third segment black with black scales except for white scales on sole, the distal one-half of second segment and terminal two segments pale with white scales. Abdomen black with black scales dorsally and yellow scales

laterally and ventrally; lamellae of ovipositor slender, without dorsal hooks. Length of wing, 3 mm.

*Male*.—Antenna with 2 + 20 segments. Mesonotum with yellow scales predominant. Abdomen with a pair of dorsocentral rows of yellow scales; abdominal segments six, seven and eight greatly expanded intersegmentally; hypogygium with dorsal plate deeply emarginate, the ventral plate of similar length but entire.

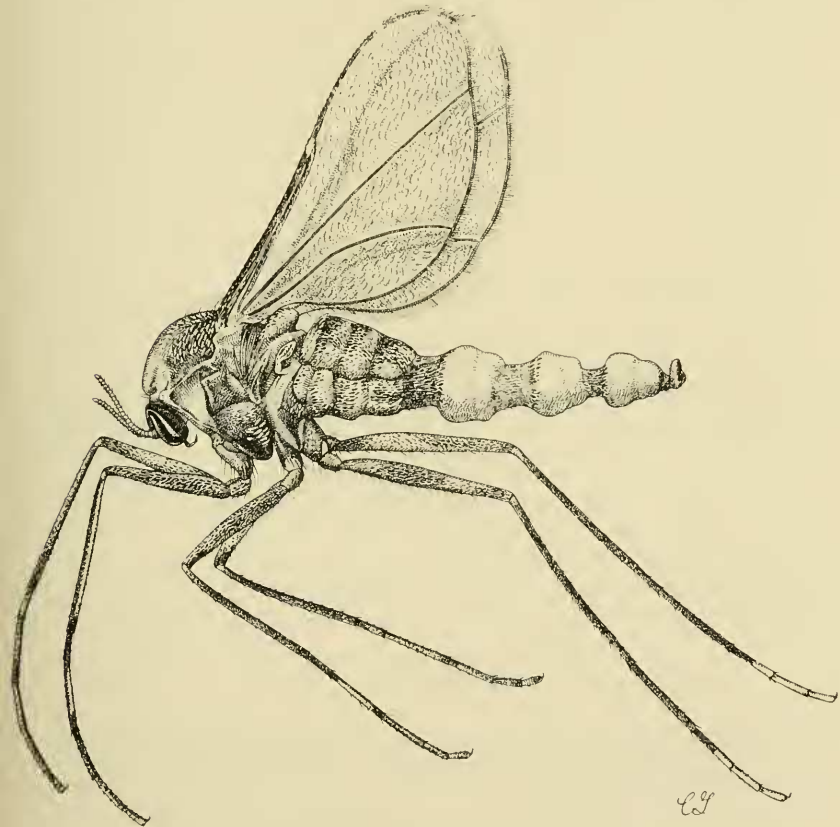


Figure 2. Male of *Lasioptera allioides* (delineation by Celeste Green).

*Holotype*.—Female (on cardpoint), Fresno, California, October 17, 1959 (West and Allen), reared from stem gall on *Paspalum distichum*.

*Paratypes*.—Two males, 7 females, same data as holotype; 1 male, 1 female, Carmel, California, August 1937 (E. S. Ross), reared from grass galls.

#### LITERATURE CITED

Robbins, W. W., Margaret K. Bellue, and Walter S. Ball. 1941. Weeds of California. 491 pp. California State Department of Agriculture, Sacramento.